Message Text

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UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1626

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, SW
SUBJ: SWEDISH PRESS ARTICLE ON NOMINEE FOR US AMBASSADOR TO
SWEDEN

REF: STOCKHOLM 1601

- 1. SWEDEN'S LARGEST CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER, EXPRESSEN, CARRIED THE FOLLOWING ITEM ON APRIL 14 ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S REPORTED SELECTION OF RODNEY MINOTT AS THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN. (IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE SWEDISH MEDIA CONTINUE TO MAKE REFERENCES ONLY TO RODNEY "KENNEDY-MINOTT," THE SOURCE FOR WHICH IS UNKNOWN TO THE EMBASSY.)
- 2. BEGIN TEXT: "KENNEDY--THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN. RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT, THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN, WOULD RATHER HAVE GONE TO BELGIUM. SO HE SAID IN AN INTERVIEW IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER PALO ALTO TIMES SHORTLY AFTER HIS PERSONAL FRIEND JIMMY CARTER HAD BECOME THE US PRESIDENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE HAS NOT OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER PLANS TO THANK RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT FOR HIS HELP BY SENDING HIM TO THE LARGE AMBASSADORIAL RESIDENCE ON GARDET IN STOCKHOLM. BUT KENNEDY-MINOTT'S PROFESSOR COLLEAGUES ARE OF THE OPINION THAT IT'S ALL UNCLASSIFIED

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SET.

PRESIDENT CARTER HAS CALLED PERSONALLY TO TALK TO HIS FRIEND AT STANFORD.

RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT IS A PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AT THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, AND HE IS 49 YEARS OLD. HE BEGAN TO BE INTERESTED IN POLITCS IN 1958, HE LATER BECAME ACTIVE LOCALLY FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

HOWEVER, HE HAS NOT HAD ANY PLANS UNTIL NOW TO LEAVE HIS JOB AS A TEACHER AT HAYWARD COLLEGE AND HIS HOME IN STANFORD. HE RECEIVED HIS EDUCATION AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY.

ORGINALLY HE COMES FROM PORTLAND, OREGON.
RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT MET JIMMY CARTER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN EARLY 1974, WHEN THE PEANUT FARMER FROM PLAINS WAS STILL A TOTALLY UNKNOWN POLITICIAN OUTSIDE HIS HOME STATE OF GEORGIA.

CARTER AND THE PROFESSOR IMMEDIATELY BECAME GOOD FRIENDS. WHEN JIMMY CARTER BEGAN HIS FIRST CAMPAIGN FOR THE NOMINATION, THE KENNEDY-MINOTT FAMILY OPENED THEIR HOME TO HIM. THERE THE PRESIDENT-TO-BE STAYED WITH THE MINOTT COUPLE AND THEIR THREE CHILDREN WHILE HE WAS TOURING CALIFORNIA.

RODNEY KENNEDY-MINOTT LED THE CAMPAIGN IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.
WHEN CARTER WON THE ELECTION AND BECAME PRESIDENT, THE PALO ALTO TIMES DREW THE CONCLUSION THAT THE STANFORD PROFESSOR WOULD BE GIVEN A PLACE IN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AS A THANK YOU GESTURE." END TEXT.
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